



# Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending July 15, 2007

## CROPS IMPROVE BUT MORE RAIN NEEDED

Scattered showers, thunderstorms, and cooler temperatures during the past week helped boost crop and pasture conditions in many areas of the State. A more general rain will be needed, however, for conditions to rebound from the prolonged hot, dry weather. Some areas received substantial amounts of precipitation last week, while others were relatively dry. Almost the entire corn crop has entered the silking stage with a third in the dough stage. Cotton and soybean development was still ahead of their 5-year average pace, and continued to improve in condition. Tobacco producers were busy this past week scouting fields, topping, and applying sucker control. Black Shank has shown up in many tobacco fields in Robertson County with tomato spotted wilt virus also more severe than in previous years. Tomato and vegetable harvest was in full swing. Pastures continued to suffer from a lack of moisture with two-thirds rated in very poor-to-poor condition. Other activities around the state included applying pesticides and marketing cattle.

There were 6 days were considered suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 31 percent very short, 38 percent short, and 31 percent adequate. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 43 percent very short, 38 percent short, and 19 percent adequate. Both temperatures and rainfall across the State averaged below normal last week. The only exception was in the southwest portion of the State, which averaged above normal rainfall.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2006	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn – Silking	93	86	95	92	Corn	17	26	37	20	0
Corn – Dough	34	n/a	19	28	Cotton	1	9	26	48	16
Cotton – Squaring	97	94	98	95	Hay	31	32	33	4	0
Cotton – Setting Bolls	38	20	33	34	Pastures	35	31	28	6	0
Soybeans – Blooming	55	36	68	43	Soybeans	6	18	34	36	6
Soybeans – Setting Pods	24	14	36	20	Tobacco	7	15	44	32	2
Tobacco – Topped	11	n/a	11	11						

n/a = not available

### Count Agent Comments

*“The farmers in Fayette County have received much needed rain for another week after many weeks of drought. More rain is needed but cotton and beans look good for the most part. The corn looks better and if we continue to get these showers; the forage crops will look better. Bugs are light at this time and we are looking for soybean rust and other diseases.”*

Jeffery D. Via, Fayette County

*“Pastures are very short. Some beef producers are already feeding a short hay supply. Local sale barn has had large sales for the last 4 weeks, 1,700 this week. The early planted corn yields could be off 40-50% of their potential. Soybeans, group 4 and 5, still have a fair to good yield potential. Group 3 soybeans without rainfall soon could be disastrous. This year is looking more like the 1999 and 2000 crop years.”*

Marcus McLemore, Hardin County

*“Livestock producers continue to reduce and liquidate herds, seek alternate water sources, and buy hay from other areas.”*

David Qualls, Lincoln County

*“We have had some showers in parts of the county and I have seen some hay fields with johnson grass and crabgrass actually growing. Our corn is mostly too far along for rain to help but where the rain has hit; soybeans are looking better. Pastures are picking up some but hay is the shortest I’ve seen in 30 years I’ve been here.”*

Larry Moorehead, Moore County

*“Showers have brought some relief to pastures and row crops. Steady rainfall is needed, due to crucial life stages for most row crops. Cattle producers are still liquidating due to a diminishing water supply and a lack of feed supply.”*

Anthony M. Shelton, Washington County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION										
For week ending: July 15, 2007 (with comparisons)										
LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending July 15, 2007				Current Week 07/15/07	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
Ames_Plantation	93	65	78	-2	2.39	3	18.84	-11.29	11.20	-5.16
Tri-City_RGNL_A	94	56	74	0	0.56	3	12.66	-10.53	7.14	-5.68
Brownsville_TN	93	68	79	-2	0.70	2	16.41	-13.73	8.62	-7.72
Chattanooga/Lov	93	64	79	1	1.26	3	16.11	-14.17	8.86	-5.69
Clarksville_Sew	94	62	78	0	0.77	2	20.64	-7.69	11.52	-3.16
Cookeville	92	57	75	-2	0.04	1	18.46	-13.37	8.56	-8.24
Covington	91	65	76	-4	0.23	2	20.76	-9.09	11.98	-4.19
Crossville_AP	89	58	74	1	0.44	4	18.99	-12.54	11.97	-4.54
Dayton	89	61	75	-3	0.42	3	17.11	-14.52	10.48	-5.13
Dickson_AG	93	60	76	-2	1.15	3	21.27	-9.31	11.68	-4.89
Dover_1W	92	64	77	0	0.40	1	20.29	-9.21	9.91	-5.69
Dyersburg	93	66	78	-4	0.46	2	18.76	-9.67	9.68	-5.93
Erwin_1W	91	56	73	2	0.78	3	17.34	-10.26	11.72	-4.37
Huntingdon_Wate	93	65	78	-1	0.45	1	15.34	-14.46	6.93	-9.11
Jackson_Exp_Stn	92	66	79	-1	0.84	3	17.25	-12.84	8.57	-8.24
Kingston_AG	91	59	75	0	0.74	3	21.25	-11.64	13.05	-3.76
Knoxville_AP	96	62	77	1	1.07	3	17.01	-10.47	9.97	-4.19
Lewisburg	92	58	76	-1	0.55	4	19.54	-11.76	11.91	-4.81
Lexington_TN	93	64	78	-2	0.37	4	17.86	-11.06	8.27	-7.46
Linden	93	61	78	1	0.97	3	18.27	-13.51	9.11	-7.68
Martin	92	65	78	-1	0.38	1	21.54	-8.33	10.57	-6.06
Mc_Minnville_Tn	92	62	77	-1	1.62	4	17.68	-12.84	10.66	-5.44
Memphis_AG	95	68	79	-4	2.23	3	21.12	-8.22	13.15	-2.70
Milan	93	63	77	-1	0.68	3	18.25	-12.48	10.01	-7.10
Murfreesboro_5N	94	60	77	-1	0.76	3	20.12	-9.70	9.24	-6.80
Nashville_Metro	93	64	79	1	0.11	2	16.36	-10.62	8.79	-5.95
Newcomb	93	56	74	1	1.13	4	19.86	-10.86	11.85	-5.00
Oneida	91	58	74	2	1.34	3	18.01	-12.71	10.51	-6.34
Portland_TN	95	62	78	2	3.53	1	20.80	-8.65	11.44	-4.71
Pulaski_Water_P	91	61	76	-3	0.90	4	17.27	-14.04	8.23	-7.69
Savannah_6SW	96	65	80	2	1.25	2	17.95	-14.94	9.29	-8.14
Sparta_TN	93	55	76	0	0.19	2	17.26	-13.72	8.87	-7.54
Springfield	95	56	76	-2	1.32	3	19.88	-8.41	10.99	-4.43
Springhill	93	60	78	2	0.61	2	19.40	-12.02	9.90	-6.91
Union_City	91	62	76	-3	0.09	2	21.37	-8.02	11.16	-5.05
Waynesboro_TN	92	60	76	-1	3.26	4	19.21	-13.76	11.02	-6.18
DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.										
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